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*For more information, go to:
www.kansasbookfestival.ks.gov*

Kansas Writer, Curator and Arts Advocate Don Lambert Honored by Nation's Governors

Curator and writer Don Lambert was honored on July 21 by the National Governors Association for his contributions to the arts in Kansas.

Mr. Lambert, Topeka, was nominated by Governor Kathleen Sebelius for his championing of Kansas arts for more than 30 years.

He discovered and helped to promote painter Elizabeth "Grandma" Layton, led a revival of the works of John Steuart Curry and arranged, for the first time ever, continuous exhibits of Kansas master artists in the Governor's office. Lambert won the Kansas Governor's Arts Award in 1992.



Don Lambert flanked by Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano, left, and Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

"Don's service to the arts in Kansas is legendary," said Governor Sebelius. "He has helped all citizens appreciate and reflect the Kansas beauty that surrounds us."

National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Dana Gioia Visits Kansas

On July 16, 2007, the National Endowment for the Arts hosted a grantwriting workshop at the Wichita Art Museum for Kansas arts organizations. Eighty-six individuals, representing 73 organizations, attended the workshop, which was led by Senior Deputy Chairman Eileen Mason and Museum and Visual Arts Program Director Robert Frankel.

The event was preceded by a press conference hosted by Congressman Todd Tiarht. NEA Chairman Dana Gioia also spoke.

"It is very important that we educate local nonprofits of the grant opportunities the NEA

offers so that we may continue to expand the arts throughout Kansas," said Congressman Tiarht.

Mr. Tiarht, his wife Vicki, and Chairman Gioia toured the Wichita Art Museum, the Mid-America All Indian Center, and Music Theatre of Wichita. City of Wichita Arts Division coordinated the events.

The following day, Chairman Gioia toured the metropolitan Kansas City area and spoke on the value of arts education at a luncheon hosted by Commerce Bank.

For more information on the National Endowment for the Arts, the nation's largest arts funder, visit arts.endow.gov.



Llewellyn Crain

From The Executive Director

Greetings!

I write this on a sweltering Kansas day, when the sky is bright blue, the grasses and trees are a vibrant green and the air blows hot off the prairies.

We live in a beautiful state filled with art that reflects the unique vision of the place that we call home.

After spending two days with staff from the National Endowment for the Arts in Wichita and Kansas City, I can honestly say that I am so proud of Kansas arts, artists, organizations and communities. The staff of Wichita's arts division put together an amazing day that showcased the value the city places on the arts.

Our task now at the Kansas Arts Commission is to help all Kansas communities demonstrate the value of the arts to civic life. For every dollar spent on the arts \$8 are generated. The arts help communities nesses, attract tourists, provide opportunities for young and old, and make our communities beautiful and good places to live.

The arts are a true public good. We at the Kansas Arts Commission are grateful that the state legislature has recognized that and has granted the Commission an additional \$100,000 for our fiscal year 2008 budget. These dollars will be spent directly on programs and services and will help organizations leverage additional funds.

We'll be there to help you do that. Look for upcoming workshops and events on marketing, fundraising, program evaluation and financial management in the year ahead. Let us know what else we can do to make your work more successful. Keep us posted on the latest in your community and how the KAC can better serve you.

Yours,

Llewellyn Crain

Kansas Arts Commission Staff

Administration

Llewellyn Crain, Executive Director
lcrain@arts.ks.gov

Chris Howell, Chief Operating Officer
chris@arts.ks.gov

Heather Larsen-Young, Administrative Specialist
heather@arts.ks.gov

Program

Margaret Weisbrod Morris, Program Manager, Community and Artist Partnerships
margaret@arts.ks.gov

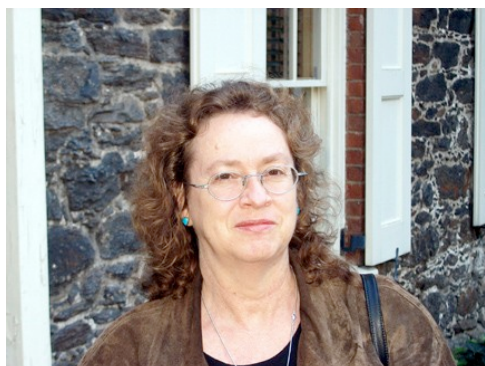
Raena Sommers, Program Manager Organizational Partnerships
raena@arts.ks.gov

Sarah VanLanduyt, Program Manager Organizational Support
sarah@arts.ks.gov

All staff can be reached through the main Commission line:

785/296.3335 or kac@arts.ks.gov

Poet Laureate of Kansas Denise Low Begins Term



Interim Dean of Humanities at Haskell Indian Nations University, Dr. Low holds the post of Poet Laureate until June 30, 2009. She succeeds Jonathan Holden.

Dr. Low is available for public appearances, readings and workshops. To schedule an appearance, contact her directly at 785/925.3509 or email her at deniselow9@hotmail.com.

To attend a scheduled event with Dr. Low, visit her calendar at kansaspoets.com. You can also visit her blog at deniselow.blogspot.com.

A native Kansan, Denise Low is a poet, editor, publisher, discussion leader, professor and literary advocate who is committed to expanding the audience for poetry in Kansas.

New Guidelines On Line

Applications for Artist Fellowships and Awards, the Kansas Arts on Tour Roster and the nomination booklet for the Governor's Arts Awards are now online.

There have been significant changes in all guidelines this year.

We now have three categories for artists: master artists, mid-career artists and emerging artists. In addition, master artists (Kansas Artist Fellowship winners) are eligible to receive the award more than once. We have also added a category for design/industrial arts, which includes architecture.

The Governor's Arts Awards categories have also changed. We are now looking to honor communities and schools that have made significant contributions to the arts in Kansas, as well as architects and designers. Individuals, ensembles and collectives may now be nominated for the artist award.

For more information on the new guidelines and forms, contact Margaret Weisbrod Morris at 785/368.6545, or email her at: margaret@arts.ks.gov.

To review the guidelines for these programs and more, please visit our new website at: <http://arts.ks.gov>.

Kansas Arts Commission Seeks Panelists

If you have an expertise in the arts and would like to serve as a panelist for any of our grants panels, we would love to speak to you!

For more information, please contact Heather Larsen-Young at heather@arts.ks.gov or call her at 785/296.3335.

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Lemuel Sheppard
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Kansas Arts Commission Launches New Website

700 SW Jackson St.,
Ste. 1004
Topeka, KS
66603-3761

Phone:
785/296.3335

Fax:
785/296.4989

E-Mail:
kac@arts.ks.gov

Website:
<http://arts.ks.gov>



KANSAS ARTS COMMISSION

700 SW Jackson St., Ste. 1004
Topeka, KS 66603-3761
359-01

Address Service Requested

If you haven't visited <http://arts.ks.gov> in a while, this might be a good time!

On July 17, the Kansas Arts Commission launched its completely redesigned website. Users will find it easier to navigate and to locate information.

The KAC is posting announcements for arts jobs in Kansas and will create a roster of consultants available to arts organizations. In the future, art registries will be created as well as descriptions of best practices in the arts. You will also find helpful information on arts in education, creative communities and the economic impact of the arts in Kansas.

In addition, the new website serves as an information repository for arts audiences. We now have an arts events calendar that anyone can access.

If you would like to post an event or a job announcement, please email it to kac@arts.ks.gov.

American Masterpieces at the Spencer Museum of Art

Through the National Endowment for the Arts' American Masterpieces program, the Kansas Arts Commission is supporting educational activities of the Spencer Museum of Art's exhibit *Aaron Douglas: African American Modernist*. On view September 8 – December 2, 2007, and then touring throughout the country, the exhibit focuses on the work of the Topeka-born foremost visual artist of the Harlem Renaissance. Education programs will take place in Lawrence, Topeka, Wichita and Kansas City, Kansas. For more information, visit <http://www.spencerart.ku.edu>.

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